

*Homegoing Celebration  
of  
Stephen Frederick Stalks*

Sunrise:  
July 8, 1951

Sunset:  
January 6, 2011



*Tuesday, January 11, 2011*

*Saint James A.M.E. Church  
Newark, NJ*

*Rev. William D. Watley, PhD  
Senior Pastor*

## *Obituary*

*Stephen Frederick Stalks, a native son and lifelong resident of the City of Newark, made his transition on Thursday, January 6, 2011 after a lengthy illness. He began his life journey on July 8, 1951. Stephen was the only child of his loving and proud parents the Honorable Larrie West Stalks and the late Frederick Stalks.*

*Stephen attended Newark Public Schools and graduated from East Side High School. He loved sports, especially basketball, and he played on his high school team. Upon finishing high school Stephen enrolled in Fairleigh Dickinson University where he obtained both his undergraduate and Master's degrees.*

*After college Stephen began a career in public service first with the City of Newark in the Office of Corporation Counsel and then for several years in the Essex County Office of Affirmative Action. At the time of his passing Stephen was employed by Newark Public Schools. He fulfilled his career goal teaching Social Studies at West Side High School. He also coached the West Side boy's basketball and soccer teams. He loved his students and they loved him back. When Stephen was in the hospital a group of his students visited and presented him with a plaque memorializing what he meant to them. Their visit put a smile on Stephen's face. Stephen was a successful coach who won two basketball championships and in the year 1992 was named Essex Soccer Coach of the year.*

*Stephen was born into a well known City of Newark political family. His mother, the legendary Larrie West Stalks served as the Essex County Register of Deeds and Mortgages for two decades. His uncle, Honorable Calvin D. West was the first African American to be elected Councilman-at-large in the City of Newark. Stephen was a concerned and active resident of Newark. An outgrowth of his background led him to serve as President of the Central Ward Young Democrats. That position was the springboard for his run for public office. He ran twice for an at large Newark City Council seat, both times garnering enough votes to make the run-offs. That was not an easy task and he made a valiant effort. Stephen was a competitor and not a complainer.*

*Stephen loved his parents, his family and his friends. If he was with you he had your back and expected the same in return. He was loved and will be missed. He leaves to celebrate his life his loving mother Larrie W. Stalks, his aunts Theresa Wynn and Loni Bradic, uncles Kenneth and Calvin West, special cousins Theresa D. Wynn and Curtis Stalks, special friend Calvin Blue and a host of other relatives and friends.*

## *Order of Service*

Musical Prelude ..... Time to Say Goodbye

Processional ..... Clergy & Family

Opening Hymn ..... Blessed Assurance

Prayer of Comfort ..... Rev. Dr. Leonard Santucci, Pastor  
St. Paul A.M. E. Church  
East Orange, NJ

### *Scripture Readings:*

Old Testament ..... Psalm 23

New Testament ..... John 14: 1- 6

Solo ..... I Won't Complain ..... Francine Findley

### *Resolutions & Acknowledgements*

Remarks ..... Kenneth West and Calvin D. West, Uncles  
Calvin Blue, Friend & Colleague

### *Obituary (read silently)*

Solo ..... Francine Findley

Eulogy ..... Rev. George E. Britt, Pastor  
St. Thomas, A.M.E. Church  
Newark, NJ

Recessional ..... Soon and Very Soon

Interment ..... Fairmount Cemetery  
Newark, NJ



*"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming, but who does actually strive to do the deeds, who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."*

*— Theodore Roosevelt*

### *Honorary Pallbearers*

**Cavin Blue**

**Dexter Davis**

**Anthony Baskerville**

**Curtis Stalks**

**Gregory Darden**

**Horace Hooper**

**Andre Lusane**

**Corey Wood**

**Darren Dickerson**

**Lamont Hargrove**

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*The family wishes to acknowledge the many acts of kindness and expressions of love and sympathy shown to us during this difficult time. We are grateful and pray the Lord's blessings for each and every one of you.*

### *Arrangements*

**Churchman J. E. Jr. Funeral Home**  
345 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Newark, NJ